

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
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Hiroki KUSAKABE, et al.	:	Confirmation Number:
	:	
Serial No.:	:	Group Art Unit:
	:	
Filed: April 16, 2004	:	Examiner:
	:	
For: METHOD FOR OPERATING POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL		

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Information Disclosure  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

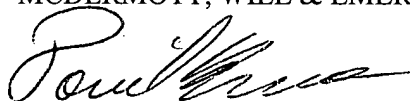
In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

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Respectfully submitted,

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  <b>(PTO-1449)</b>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>43888-299</b>		SERIAL NO.		
				APPLICANT <b>Hiroki KUSAKABE, et al.</b>				
				FILING DATE <b>April 16, 2004</b>		GROUP		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)						
		US	5,763,113	06/09/1998	Meltser et al.			
		US	5,763,765	06/09/1998	Lamont et al.			
		US	6,036,827	03/14/2000	Andrews et al.			
		US	6,096,449	08/01/2000	Fuglevand et al.			
		US	6,455,180 B1	09/24/2002	Mowery et al.			
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		US	US 2003/0022044 A1	01/30/2003	Inai et al.			
		US	US 2003/0039869 A1	02/27/2003	Murakami et al.			
		US	US 2003/0211376 A1	11/13/2003	Hatoh et al.			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
		Country Codes - Number 4 - Kind Codes (if known)					Yes	No
		JP	2000-58095 A (w/ English Abstract)	02/25/2000	KYUSHU ELECTRIC POWER CO., INC. & TOTO LTD.		X	
<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>								
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.